Disney

the Lost Chords

Cinderella

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"I cannot think about the pictorial story without thinking about the complimentary music which will fulfill it."

Walt Disney

Walt Disney's approach to storytelling and the important role music would play in the creation of his classic films demanded that his composers begin their work early during the development process. In fact, at the same time that Disney's artists were exploring story ideas, the look of the characters and the settings in pencil and paint, his composers were "sketching" those same things through melody and lyric. Thousands of pieces of artwork were created throughout each film's visual development stage and then stored away. And much music, too, experienced the same fate. Many songs were written for each film, but as storylines evolved and characters changed, many enjoyable pieces of music no longer fit the film's needs and were filed away, usually never to be heard again.

In the late 1990s I began searching the files and storage areas of the Walt Disney Music Library for these deleted songs and with the Walt Disney Music Company was able to publish full vocal/piano arrangements of many of them in two books titled *Disney's Lost Chords*. Almost immediately fans of the books asked if there would be any companion recordings, a wish that was enthusiastically echoed by Randy Thornton of Walt Disney Records – a wish that after many years is now being realized.

Walt Disney Records is therefore pleased to introduce this series of albums showcasing many of these forgotten songs. Represented by original demo recordings made during the film's production, often sung by the composers themselves, and complemented by new arrangements and recordings, we are delighted through this album to give further testament to the creativity of Disney's composers and the commitment of everyone involved in the making of these classic films to bring forth the very best in cinematic storytelling.

Cinderella's history at the Disney Studio dates back to the early 1930s when it was proposed as an entry in the Silly Symphony series. By 1939 the story was one of several features in development resulting from the phenomenal success of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. However, in just a few years most of the animated features being planned were put on hold, as the Disney Studio concentrated its efforts on war-related films. After the war *Cinderella* was once again in pre-production. Following the pattern of his earlier classic features, Walt assigned two staff composers for the film's song score: Larry Morey, who was in the Studio's story department and had served as lyricist for *Snow White's* memorable score, and Charles Wolcott, composer and arranger for many of the package features from the 1940s. Yet, whether a Disney Cinderella would ever step onto a movie screen was in doubt. The 1940s were a period with many financial problems for the Studio and the commitment of time and money to a true animated feature (the last one had been *Bambi*, released in 1942) was a risk many felt the Studio could not afford. But Walt was convinced his artists had to return to the feature format if the Studio were to survive, and in addition it was clear he personally needed the challenges and artistic satisfaction that a single story animated feature provided. Because everything depended on *Cinderella's* success, Walt felt a song score that would truly resonate with the public was a must. So in spite of the fact that Morey and Wolcott had produced a full song score, for the first time for a single story animated feature, Walt turned to outside composers who he felt would fulfill that need. Those composers, Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston, did just that. Released in 1950, *Cinderella* became the success that ensured that new Disney animated features would continue to delight the public for many years to come.

– Russell Schroeder

Russell Schroeder worked as an artist for The Walt Disney Company for twenty-nine years. In addition to *Disney's Lost Chords Volumes 1 & 2*, Russell authored several other books including *Disney: The Ultimate Visual Guide* and *Mickey Mouse: My Life In Pictures*.

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I'm in the Middle of a Muddle – DEMO

Words and Music by Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

A work song for Cinderella seemed natural from the earliest days of planning. Morey and Wolcott offered "Sing a Little, Dream a Little" and the new composing team came up with three different songs that all had Cinderella singing about her chores. But there might have been a concern that audiences wouldn't sympathize with a character dwelling on her own troubles. The fourth song they devised provided the solution. In "The Work Song" the mice sang about Cinderella's unreasonable work schedule and audiences then shared that caring with the appealing mice.

I'm in the Middle of a Muddle

Vocals: Kate Higgins
Words and Music by Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

I Lost My Heart at the Ball – DEMO

Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

In this lilting waltz Cinderella tells her bird and mouse friends of her magical evening. As with several of the Morey/Wolcott songs there is a mature sophistication present that may have been one of the reasons Walt Disney eventually turned to more popular song composers for the film's songs. It's interesting to note that even though the Morey/Wolcott songs were all written in 1946, they were copyrighted in 1948, another landmark for Cinderella: it was the first feature to have its music copyrighted and published by the newly formed Walt Disney Music Company.

I Lost My Heart at the Ball

Vocals: Jennifer Paz
Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

The Mouse Song – DEMO

Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

In a mid-1940s story meeting Walt Disney observed that Cinderella might brighten her drab existence by making clothes for the mice that lived in the chateau. That element was included in the film and in this early song the mice revel in their unique attire.

The Mouse Song

Vocals: Jeff Gunn and Rob Paulsen
Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

Sing a Little, Dream a Little – DEMO

Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

Among the earliest "work songs" offered for Cinderella to sing, this one shares an element with several of the songs devised by David, Hoffman and Livingston: Cinderella's wish to be more than one person in order to ease her workload. And while the chorus is delightfully uplifting, it may have been too reminiscent of Snow White's "Whistle While You Work."

Sing a Little, Dream a Little

Vocals: Juliana Hansen
Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

Dancing on a Cloud – DEMO

Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

After composers had demonstrated a song for Walt Disney and he thought it would work for the film, he gave his approval for a fuller demo version to be recorded. This recording would then stimulate his artists' creativity, providing them with imaginative ways they could visualize a sequence. In the case of "Dancing on a Cloud" the result was many beautiful full-color renderings of the romantic waltz that transports Cinderella and Prince Charming into a heavenly ballroom.

Incidentally, a romantic musical interlude set up in the clouds was planned for Snow White and the Prince, but later abandoned. That same concept was suggested for Cinderella and Prince Charming, but, again, the idea didn't progress past this song with its accompanying story sketches. Finally, the Disney artists realized this decades-old dream during the closing moments of *Sleeping Beauty*, when Aurora and Prince Phillip waltz across a billowy ballroom.

Dancing on a Cloud

Vocals: Kate Higgins and Jeff Gunn
Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

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The Dress That My Mother Wore – DEMO

Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

In this poignant ballad Morey and Wolcott expanded on the significance of the dress that Cinderella plans to wear to the palace ball, painting a picture of her mother and father and how deeply she sensed their love for each other.

The Dress That My Mother Wore

Vocals: Juliana Hansen
Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Reserved.

The Face That I See in the Night – DEMO

Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
© 1948 Walt Disney Music Company (ASCAP). © Renewed.

A note about this demo: Many of the original demo recordings were on acetate records. Though common technology of the time, they were very delicate. Over the years, many of these discs have suffered some damage to varying degrees. In this particular case, the edge of this disc was broken and the opening lines were lost.

Had this song been used in the film, it would have greatly expanded Prince Charming's screen time, something that probably wouldn't have pleased the animators, who were still finding romantic human princes difficult to portray convincingly.

The Face That I See in the Night

Vocals: Jeff Gunn and Jennifer Paz
Words by Larry Morey
Music by Charles Wolcott
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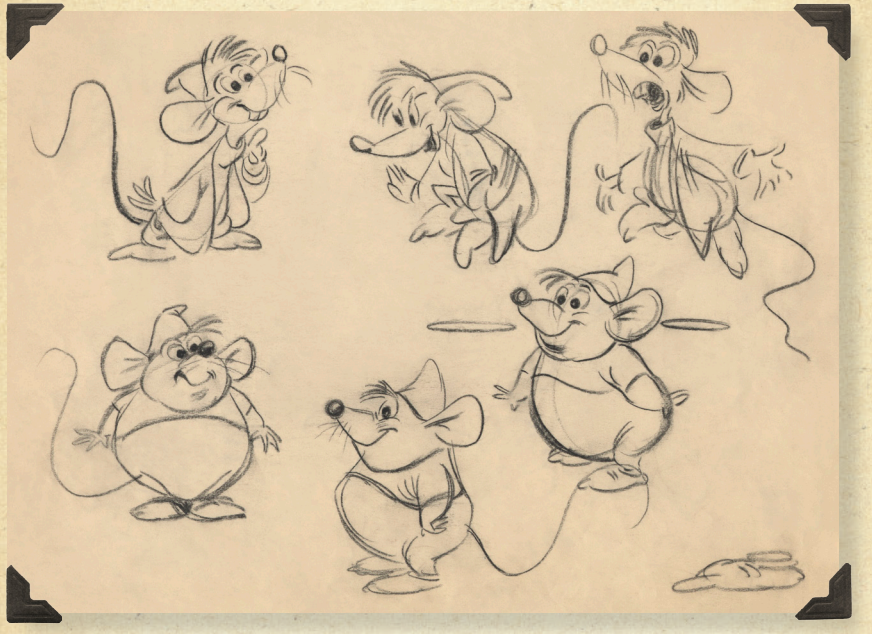

1. I'm in the Middle of a Muddle – DEMO
2. I'm in the Middle of a Muddle
3. I Lost My Heart at the Ball – DEMO
4. I Lost My Heart at the Ball
5. The Mouse Song – DEMO
6. The Mouse Song
7. Sing a Little, Dream a Little – DEMO
8. Sing a Little, Dream a Little
9. Dancing on a Cloud – DEMO
10. Dancing on a Cloud
11. The Dress That My Mother Wore – DEMO
12. The Dress That My Mother Wore
13. The Face That I See in the Night – DEMO
14. The Face That I See in the Night

Produced by **Randy Thornton**
Recorded and Mixed by **Jeff Sheridan**
Arrangements by **Jerry Cleveland**
Liner Notes by **Russell Schroeder**

Special thanks to **Ted Kryczko** and **Dustin Burford**

Walt Disney Records

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